

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Fehring et al.
Filed: Concurrently Herewith
For: ENHANCED BIOCOMPATIBLE
IMPLANTS AND ALLOYS

September 13, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In The Specification:

On page 1, line 1, please insert the following paragraph:

Cross Reference to Related Applications

This application is a division of copending application Serial No. 09/247,395, filed February 10, 1999, which has been allowed.

In The Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-16 and 23-34.

Respectfully submitted,

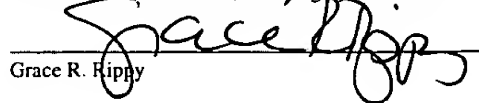


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Grace R. Rippy